



THE  
Famous & renowned  
History of *Morindos* a King of  
Spaine; Who maryed with *Miracola*  
a Spanish Witch: and of their sea-  
nen daughters, (*rightly surna-*  
*med Ladies with bleeding*  
*hearts:*) *their births, their*  
*lives and their*  
*deaths.*

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A History most wonderfull, strange, and plea-  
sant to the reader.

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L O N D O N

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Benjamin Franklin

To the Honorable the President of the

Academy of the City of New York

and the Honorable the Mayor of the City of New York

in relation to the

proposed

amendment

to the

constitution



1787

1787

1787

1787

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How *Morindos* a King of Spaine  
married with *Miracula* a Witch: and how  
he was transformed without shape for pol-  
*luting the Temple of God.*

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CHAP. I

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When Spaine was nursed with the milke of  
paganisme, vertue not knowne, nor God  
honoured, there liued a people so ripe in sin,  
that the keene edge of Chances sickle, lay  
euen ready whetted to reape them downe  
for confusions harvest: yet the subiects  
then living were not so wicked as the King vitious: a  
King we name him, (if illustrious title of maiestie, may  
grace so pernicious a foe to nature with so royall a stile)  
his birth was fatall, for when the midwife pulled him  
from the cradle of his conception, the earth quaketh, and  
heauen rained blood: his parents ominous, the one de-  
uoured by wolues, the other burnt to death by thunder:  
his youth full of vnlucky chances, his age tyrannous and  
mischieuous, and all his life subiect to blacke misdoedes.  
When his parents by heauens wrath had ended thus their  
daies, he reigned King, and wore the imperiall Diademe,  
but such a King, good men thought neuer sprong from wo-  
mans wombe. *Morindos* for so we name him, being  
seated vpon the throane of maiestie, ruled not in loue but  
by force, making his nobles slaues to his sinne, and their



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winces, feeders of his lust: for euery day in the yeare hee had a severall concubine, all young, beawtifull, and lovely: nature framed their bodies faire, though sinne made their soules blacke: for both art and riches induozed to delight his insatiate desires: earths chieffest pleasures were at his commaund: and all the lullabies of content, rockt him in the cradle of securitie: thus careles of heauens wrath, he more honoured the Deuill, then he loued God: and what was the vilest to nature, he most doted vppon. But now after al these pleasures of his wanton youth, the kind embraces of his sayre concubines, which like earthly Angells made him happy in natures sports, he wickedly fell enamored vppon one of the Deuills blacke saints, one Madam Miracola, a Witch of damnation, now burning in hell for her blacke deedes: this Madam Miracola bozne of noble parentage, brought vp in the deepest artes, skillfull in Magick charmes, and incantations, who hauing spent seauen yeres in that deepe mystery of coniuration, seldome sleeping without the society of spirits, fayries, goblins, or nightly shapcs: hir chieffest studie and ayne was at principallitie, to rule sole Queene and gouernour of the Kingdome, and no way was there to attaine to that imperial seat, but by marrying with king Morindos, though not a match fit, he being descended royally, she but nobly: yet by sorceries, witchcrafts, and magicke deuises, shee obtained hir purpose, and in this manner obtained it.

Vppon a time when King Morindos, in the height of his reuelles, whilst some of his fairest concubines, daunced befoze him naked in their cambryck smockes: the more to inkindle lustes fire, shee entred the chamber of their licentious sports, with a maske of wonder, the like neuer seene in Princes court: for all the Maskers (except hir selfe) were infernall spirits, visible, but not tangible, all in the shape of young Ladies, attired in more changeable silkes then the collours of the Rainebowe: hir  
selfe



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felie in a robe of such riches, as it seemed to exceede the glorie of the sunne for brightnes: hir owne bodie shee im- bathed and supled with a water of such inchantment, that what man soeuer first set eye vppon her, either present loue or present death, had destinie allotted him: for well knew she that no man presumed his presence, during this time of pleasure.

This Madam Miracula, assisted by the blacke states of hell, by delusions won the kings loue: whose vnconstant eyes, no sooner first their inflecting beames on this killing cokatrice: but all on a sodaine fire his loue inflamed, y nothing could quench it, but hir loue ioyned to his, which were immediately sealed together: loue, desire, and lust, so conspired against his bewitched heart, that he presently auoided the chamber of his intising damselfs, and shee of hir deluding spirits: remaining then but two bodies, two hearts, and two tongues, he began to reueale loues secre- sie in this manner: Madam quoth he (knowing hir to be a long attender in his court) good or euill fortune hath in- chanted me, and now thy present loue or hate, must either glorifie me with earthly happinesse, or send me wandring to the darksome walkes of death, where no societie but crawling wormes and dead mens bones are resident: deny me not therefore good Madam, I am this countries Potentate, I can commaund both wealths and power, ci- ties, towers, and townes: Statesmen scoope, and hum- ly kneele vnto my foote: royalties, dignities, and al other kingly promotions, are at my disposing: vnto my pleasures all the land submits: delights are my vassels, both land, & sea as subiects strue to make me happy: I am an earth- ly God, be thou my Goddesse, take all these honours, I will attend on thee, I be thy subiect, thy seruant, I will kisse thy foote: deny not my loue for thou hast bewicht my heart, inchaunted me, fired mee with a quenchlesse flame, all my boddie burnes and nothing but the sweete Dewe of thy graunt can  
A 2  
qualifie



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quallifie it : make mee either vnfortunate or happy sweet Madame. This being breathed from his longing soule, she farre more tractable to loues motions then he, made a full conclusion of a willing acceptance in this sort: I haue a minde imperious monarche (said she) soaring vp to the battlements of heauen, no base desires nor lowe bred thought, shall any whit aspire my princely will: I ayne at a kingly bed, where maiestie sleepes, whose chamber is imperious, garded with commanding statesmen: seauen weary winters, and as many summers haue my hopes bene climbing vp this kingly ladder, and now on the top of fortunes wheele am I fallen into a princes bosome: in louing me (great king) thou conquerest fate, thou subiectest hell, thou maist (by my assistance) command legions of the black host to houer ouer thy Pallace, and in the twinkling of an eye, blast vp all thy wicked conspirators: if our mindes but once proue equall in the cheare of soueraingty, the earth shall be farre too little for thy gouernement: my magick charmes shall vnbowell the earth, rip vp her bosome, ransack her rich treasures for thy vse: my magicke charmes for thee, and for thy pleasure shall empty the vast Ocean and cram thy kingdom with those riches that mans eye hath not seene since the worlds creation: my charmes for thy content shall pane thy Court with pearles, emrodes and Diamonds: commaund great king, and the marble stones that now compase thy pallace shal daunce, and the ayer like singing Cherubins sound vs heauenly hermony: contents, delights, pleasures, ioyes, and all the solaces of heauen and earth, shall be thy attendants by inuesting me thy equall in great maiestie: thus, and in this maner did she cline the supremacie, and tyed vpon her backe the title of a Quene. Being both enchanted thus, and intangled in the snares of desire, they immediately tied Himens knot, a band that none sunders but death: the marriage they solemnized the same night, not able to stay the mornings rise, but



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but as blacke thoughts haue blacke euentis, so in blacke manner was this mariage celebrated, it was euen at the midle of night, when the Scritch-owle, Kookes, and Dozemice, sleepe in foggy mistes: it was euen at that houre when the ghaastes of dead men walke, when murderers dreame of villany, euen when y<sup>e</sup> earth had her sable garments on, was this sacred knot united, both being impatient of delay, he burning in lust, she aspiring a kingdom, conuerted the holy temple to a mariage bed: be euer black this deede of hell, and neuer be it told but with a trembling tongue, for neuer was night more darke then this: the sable curtines of the ayer were all as pitch, and seemed to hide this polluted sinne: the earth cast vp such a misty vapour, that extinguished both fire and cresset-lights: art could not make one candles flame, nor any meane of brightnesse to beholde each other: so wicked was this enterpryse of theirs, that both heauen & earth shewed fatall prodigies, and euerie thing (that dismall night) grew different from nature: nothing was heard but howling Dogges, croaking Toades, and hissing snakes, vnkowne voyces bellowed in the court, and the polluted Temple so vilely stained, was compassed about with ghostly spirits, Fire-drakes and walking Goblins. But marke now the strangest of al wonders, euen at the verie instant when the seede of procreation conioyned, euen as it were a crie of mandrakes strooke the king into a madnes, blaspheming heauen till his tongue grew dumbe, his eyes blinde, his eares deafe, his ioyntes numbe, and all his body shapelesse. And as a Beare new whelped like a lampe of flesh without fashion, lay clasped in the armes of this new made Queene. But now when the morning came, and that the light of heauen sommond all creatures from sleepe, the Nobles of his court came to his bed-side, thinking to giue them both a ioyfull good morrow, but euen as their lips gaue way to their tongues passage, their eies espied this fearefull accident: a iudgement that heauen hath  
seldome



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sildome yet sholone, which was a king, deafe, dumb, blinde and senceles, by breathing life: which straunge sight stroke the nobles into such a maze, that without any further speach they forsooke the court, confidently thinking it unhappie, in harboring so vile a monster as this king was. Now this new made Queene or damned inchantresse, having purchased a kingdome by hir blacke proceedings, was so blinded with the greatnesse of maiestie, and so ravished with the brightnesse of a crowne, being now sole Queene and gouernour thereof, made a carelesse sport of gods iudgment, and hauing in hir court none left but parasites, and flatterers, such as are commonly the right hands to principalities, made the greatest sinners the most honorable, and held the vitious in best regard: the deformed shape of the king hauing life but no senses, she caused to be put in a brassen coffen, and fed him dayly with humane blood, which she poured into his mouth through quilles of silver: the successe hereof you shall heare in the next chapter, and what a straunge conception she had after this first night of hir mariage.

Here the enchanted Queene made the Devils a banquet with hir husbands bodie: her three questions to the same Devils, and their answers, and of her despairing lamentations in a darke dungeon.

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## Chap. 2.

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Done blasted were the hopes of this aspiring Queene, and scowling mischance with a bended brow, heind in their mariadge bed: heauens wrath and hells fury, layd heauie burthens vppon them, and as it were, broke their heart-strings asunder: for Miracola, after she had coffend her deformed husband, yet breathing life, melancholly dispaire



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paire, and pining griefe chiefly attended vppon her: discontent, suspition, and feare were her gardians by day, and by night: straunge visions, dolefull outcries & vnquiet dreames assailed her: wilde beasts craipe from the woods and in tame manner made them denies within her court: vnlucky birds forsooke the ayre to sit vppon her pallace, such as nightowles and crooking ratiens be, sounding forth fatall and harsh harmony: the sun seemd to shine vppon her with a scowling face, the moone as ashamed of her soules dānation (in conferring thus w<sup>th</sup> de- uills) as it were drew backe behinde the pitchy cloudes, and vnwillingly lent light vnto the meaner starres: each thing grew contrary to kinde, onely her selfe excepted, for she hauing made an atonement with the princes of the fiery world, put her whole confidence in them, and onely trusted thzough their assistance, to lead Fortune in a string and at her pleasure commaund kingdomes. So vppon an euening, when the daies bright eye had left heauens safer pallace, and night with her blacke canopie, had compass in the earth, she betooke her to her priuate chamber, where Medea like, she raised vpp her ould seruants, the furies or rather the spirits of darkenes, from their burning beds, such as condemned soules lye flaming vppon, who no sooner presented themselves befoze her, but shee questioned them in this manner: I charge you (quoth she) you enemies to heauen and man, by the band and condition made betwixt you and me sealed with my dearest blood, and by the seauen sucking babes that I once offred to you at midnight, and by the hope you haue of my soules purchase at my deaths fatall hower, answer me truly to thzee seuerall questions which here I will presently propound vnto you: first how long my life shall continue, secondly whether I shall die a Queene or not: lastly the numbet of my children and their following fortunes: to which propositions, these instruments of mischief immediately condescended to answer, but vppon this strange condition following: that as a foe to these blacke barcasters, shee should



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Should deliver up her husbands deformed body, and serve it to them in seaven severall banquets, that both his flesh and blood, as a bribe to hell might be made foode for spirits: which demand to this woman monster, seem'd but an easie request, and therefore like to the viper, which feeds upon her owne dam, gave that life and body to the tyranny of hell, which ought to have bene precious in the eye of heaven, and the dearest iewel of her owne heart: These diligent deceivers having no sooner promise of this purchased prize, but in a mistickall sort, or riddlelike, gave answers to her thre former questions, in this sort: First, for the continuance of her life, they saide she should live till the seaven daies of the weeke were forgotten: the second question was, whether she should dye a queene or not, they answered that neither heaven nor earth, God nor man, should take her kingdome from her: the third and last question was, to know the number of her children and their following fortunes, to this they answered, that from her bodie should spring seaven branches, whose tops should reach to heaven: These answers to this accursed womans eares, came more ioyfull, then the reports of pardon to a condemned man, and more pleasing to her heart then for a moorish slave from the cheained gally, to be advanced into a kingdome: therefore with a settled trust and assurance of the spanish crowne and government (little mistrusting the lie defeats of these mistickall answers) with all convenient speed provided a chamber, wherein she might performe her damned condition, and deliver up her husbands body to the gluttony of hell. therefore ascending to the top of her pallace, into a marble tower, she caused her husbands bodie to be brought thither, and after commanded the walles to be hung round about with blacke mourning cloth, to signifie her damned and fatall enterprise: this being done, she purposed to devide the service of her seaven banquets into seaven severall daies, and in this manner were they accomplished: the first day upon a table



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ble of blacke Ebony, in two yron plates or platters, she set the two legs of her unhappy husband, which so often (in his good daies of fortune) bestrode the warlike palfrey in the honour of his country: the second day vppon the same Ebony table, she placed his fine two thighs (in two vessels of lead) whose blew beignes, signified the force & strength of manhood: the third day she likewise brought to the table his secret partes and bowels, in a vessell of tin or pewter, wherein lay the seed of procreation: the fourth day she furnished the same table, in a charger of brasse, with the belly and inward partes of his body, which had so often bene cherisht with delicious and princely banquets: the fift day in like manner in a vessell of compounded mettle named alchemye, she brought to the table his manly bzeast, which as a tower had many yeares clos'd vp his heart: the sixt day in a platier of fine siluer, she serued in y two arms of her husband, which whilst vertue governd, held both the scepter of peace and the sword of warre: the seauenth and last, day in a vessell of pure gould, being the dearest and richest ser vice, she brought in his head, which had so often bene ornaied with an imperiall diadem, containing a tongue that could in former times, haue giuen life or death: all these unnaturall seruises by the hands of a Welsh natured woman. Being no sooner finished, & the fatall table auoided, but both heauen and earth, land & sea, as it were gaue echoes of terror: hell it selfe seemd to tremble, and spewed vp corrupted sauors, & from her fiery furnaces, cast abroad such sparckling flames, y even the imbrodered vestures beset with goldsmiths workmanship, so gorgeously beautifing her bodie, were fiered, and the golden treamels of her haire, burnd from her head: notwithstanding all this nothing amazed the shameles minde of Miracula, nor any way affrighted her w the terror of heuens wrath, for y thirst of promotiō so bewitched her, ambitious pride so enchanted her, and the desire of a diadem so imboldned her, that thinking both crown and kingdom her asurance for ever, by y false promises of hel: immediately

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vppon



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Upon this same tower or chamber wher she had thus sacrificed her husbands body, she caused certaine characters or letters to be ingrauen upon the marble walles, concerning her perpetuall happines: The first superscription was to this effect following. Vpon this earth Miracola shalliue, till the seauen daies of the weeke be forgotten: which she thought was for ever.

The second superscription was: That neither heauen nor earth, God nor man should take her kingdome from her.

The third: That her children like seauen branches should reach to heauen.

These three promises she regarded as Oracles, and beleued that through them her earthly happines should neuer end: but suddainely this violent ioy, turned into an extreame grieffe, for as she stood contemplating of these neuer-ceasing delights, there entred inuisible into the chamber, one of the blacke potentates of hell, and vnder every one of these superscriptions, ingraued these significations: Under the first this: The seauen daies of the weeke, bethy seauen daughters now breeding in thy wombe, who no sooner ripe but rotten, no sooner borne but forgotten.

Under the second: Though neither heauen nor earth, God nor man, will take the kingdome from thee, yet hell and the deuill shall.

Under the third: The seauen branches whose tops should reach to heauen, be the seauen deadly finnes that shall spring from thy wombe, whose bloody enterprises, and blacke deedes, shall clime heauen for an eternall Iudgement.

These dismall and ominous reuelations, were no sooner ceazed vpon, by the eyes of this accursed Queene, but all the partes of her body trembled with feare: not a member but the terror thereof distempered: now feare of Gods vengeance by little and little entred into her heart, and the quivering thought of hells damnation filld her bosome full of dispaire: without all hope of saluation, she in-

closes



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clod herselfe in the centorie of the earth, in a caue where neither light of sunne, no2 the glimmering brightnes of the moone might discead, no2 any voice of man or other creature could yeeld her comfort: thus excluding her selfe from all worldly solaces, committing the gouernment of hir kingdome to Scicophants and carelesse guides, she wast- ed away the time of ten moneths, in this dark and solitarie Dungeon, both day and night, making these or such like wofull lamentations: Oh Nature (quoth she) thou nurse of euery living thing, why didst not thou end me in my first beginning? why did my mothers wombe, bying to light this my damned soule? why did my cradle rock this my body of perdition, to so many lullabies? I wish my nurses pappe had yeelded nought but venomed payson, and that my swathing clothes, had ben sheetes of boyling lead, that both life and body at one instant had ben both consumed: but woe is me, I am reserved for an eternal torment: my tongue hath consented to my soules euermore lasting damnation, and my hand sealed to a band that can neuer be cancelled, till I be cast into hels deuouring bowels: fall vpon me thou great frame of heauen & couer me: thunder-claps descend, whirle windes arise, and cast me beyond the bounds of mans imaginations: thou spirit of red vengeance, transforme me to some venemous worme: make me without soule, or feeling, that my torments be not euermore lasting: woe vpon woe pursues me, for the gayning of a crowne and kingdome, haue I sold and for euer lost my deare soule, whome all the treasures both of earth and sea, no2 the prayers of good men can euermore redeeme, curse be mine eies that trained me to this damned study: band be my tongue that practised first these incantations: and woe to all my wits and senses, that so cursedly gaue euermore themselves, to these magick charmes: now rane and rage, be you mad, distraught and lanaticke. dig vp the bowelles of the earth, and wander far beyond the Antipodes: but oh for euer weepe, weepe thou most miserable soule, howle



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and lament that griefe may split asunder thy sad heart, for such a woful heart neuer liu'd in womans breast: thus and in this maner spent she in deepe lamentations, both minutes, howers, weekes and moneths, till her wombe grew big, and the fruit therein ripe and ready to fall.

How the enchanted Queene was deliuered of seauen daughters at one time: and how she lay in child bed one and twentie yeares after.

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### Chap. 3.

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**N**ow betwixt her prodigious and unlucky marriage, ten times had the silver moone renewed her brightnesse, and the time of her deliuerie drew neare vnto the appointed hower: when in great toiments both of soule and bodie, she ascended from her darke habitation, where, for fortie weekes, her chiefest foode was sorow, griefe and care: but now like vnto the owle ashamed of the light, she came abroad, and caused provision to be made fitting for her deliuey: and although her Ladies inwardly hated her life and conuersation, yet in charitie and christian loue, they attended her safetie, being conducted to her chamber, where the painefull hower of childe bearing were to be indured: the pinching thraes so tortured her womb (bearing so strange a burthen) that she in verry griefe and agonie thereof, with her nalles tore out her owne eyes, and would haue rent the fruit aliae out of her wombe, had not the tender care of her Ladies prevented her: Thus sightles and comfortlesse fell she in labor, wherein she continued in great extremitie for the space of seauen daies, making such bitter mone, and breathing from her painefull heart such dolefull groanes, as would haue forced euery merciles  
Tigers



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Tigers to pittie: and so strange was her deliuerie, that the report thereof might fill large volumes with bitter lamentations: for in seauen daies she brought forth seauen maiden children, euery one as hateful to the world, as the seauen deadly sinnes: all at one birth, a thing sildom seene, but that God in iustice will shew his iudgement, vppon so inhumane a woman.

The first was borne vpon the Sunday, which we compare vnto pride, as the course of her life hereafter shall declare, which child was called Sola, after the daies name.

The second vppon the Monday, which we liken vnto enuy, according to her liues qualitie, and bore the name of Lucina.

The third vppon Tuesday, which we alude vnto wrath, and therefore named Marcia.

The fourth vppon Wednesday suppose to be couetousnes, which we call Mercuria.

The fift vppon Thursday, which we imagine to be drunkennes, and therefore we name her Louina.

The sixt vppon Friday, which we place for lechery, and giue her the name of Venorina.

The seauenth and last of this ominous brood, was borne vppon the Saturday, which we terme to be sloth, and so call her Saturnia.

Thus was the seede of shame brought into the world, at whose birthes seauen black rauen, set croaking directly vppon the top of her chamber, and the howlets of mischaunce, with fatall wings flattered against the chrystall windows: each one of them borne with teeth in their mouthes, whereat the midwife and other her assistants (the Ladies there present) were much amazed, and with trembling hearts, feared to behold so strange a spectacle of nature: but as fate and destiny had allotted, they of their owne free willes, prouided for these seauen monsters (thus borne) seauen severall nurses, the wiues of seauen shepheares, which onely had their habitations, in wood-  
dig



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die caues, where they were diligently brought vp and not  
once suffered till their full age to come within the Court  
gates, where we will leaue them to fortunes direction for  
a time: The wofull mother of these vnfortunate chil-  
dren, being now safely deliuered, (through her owne ex-  
treame violence, lying sightlesse in her childbed, the onely  
foe to worldly delights) in the hearing of many standers  
by, breathed forth this pittifull complaint: oh how happy  
is the silly worme (saide she) that hath neither soule nor  
vnderstanding, whereby the threating of euerlasting  
torments may not affright it the miseries of this worlde  
wherein I now deseruedly lie, are but as delights & sports  
in regard of them I shall feele? when the doomes daye of  
my life is past. I lye now as it were vpon a bed of pric-  
king thornes, & stung with a thousand serpentine stings:  
but woe is me, my guiltie conscience doubtis, that for my  
wilfull loosing of my soule. I shall lye boyling in the red  
hotte chaldron of damnation, more thousands of yeares;  
then blades of grasse growe vpon the earth, leaues vpon  
trees, or starres in y<sup>e</sup> chrystall firmament: and more, which  
terrifies my condemned soule, I shall lye there in consu-  
ming paine, (but neuer consumed) more millions of yerres  
then as if a heap of sand should lye on earth, whose toppe  
should reach to heauen, and once in euery million of yerres  
an eagle should fetch away but one sand, yet would those  
yeares of torments haue an end, but mine can neuer fi-  
nish, for seeing that sweete soule that my deere saviours  
life was shed for: me thinkes I heare seauen sucking babes  
knocking at heauen gates for vengeance against me, for  
giuing vp their tender bodies as a foode for spirits: me  
thinkes I heare seauen virgins (all the daughters of migh-  
tie Potentates) accusing me for enchanting them, to a  
heape of senceles stones: me thinkes I heare seauen aged  
men, whose heads were beawtified with milke white  
pledges of wisdom, all comming as witnessers against  
me, for sucking away their blood by spirits, in the likenes  
of



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of aspes and adders, and after sacrificing the marrow of their bones, to the chiefe Prince of darknes, for which my conscience now tels me, yheauens yron hand of vengeance is euen ready to strike, and that hells wrath is inuenting new tortures for my soule: and now there is a horred voice thunders in mine eare, that this my ever stained crime shall be also scourged in my seede, and all my kindred washt from the face of the earth, into the vnknowne vault of forgetfulnes: and now in speaking these words, all her ioints grew lame and numbe, thereby to ioyne in equall misery with her sightles eyes: where we will leaue her now, as the picture of calamitie, lying in childbed, for the space of one and twentie yeares, and speake of her childzens misfortunes, whose liues were as odious to the world, as the seauen deadly sinnes.

### Prides Tragedie,

The life and death of Sola the proude, the first daughter to the enchanted Queene: a history ful of dole, woe, & calamitie.

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## CHAP. 4

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**P**he eldest and first childe of this viperous Queene, borne vpon a sunday, bearing the name of Sola, and being the true picture of pride, in life and nature persecuting in that deadly sinne, for being no sooner growne to the ripenesse of age, and that the yeares of discretion had grafted hir with vnderstanding, she was by the nobles and ladies of the Land, brought to the court, in hope that after her mothers decease (by the decree of frowning chaunce, lying then in marvellous calamities) she would proue a gracious and good queen



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queene, but it happened farre otherwise, for being now on the way of preferment, and climbing by the steps of imperiall dignitie, a kinde of commaunding pride so bewitched her, that she esteemd her selfe above womans kinde, and that nature had framd her of no earthly substance, but rather of the pure mould of celesttall angels: her crimson coloured cheekes whereon the glory of beautie seemd to shine her ivory front or forehead where art and nature strove for supremacie: and her bright twinkling eyes, within whose pretty balls, the God of love seemd to shew himselfe, were al in her proud imaginations too pretious for the sun to shine vpon, and her selfe, with al other partes of her bodie, the most pure workmanship of natures experience, she held too angel like, to tread vpon the grosse earth: therefore she, (the more to aduance her great pride) caused a chariot of chrystal glasse to be made, close framed on al sides to keepe both winters blastes and sommers heat from her delicate bodie: the which chariot by skilfull art was waisted vp and downe, by artificiall meanes deuised by mans inuention: her foode was the purest restoroties of the earth, both of beastes, birds, fowles and fishes, and the onely quintisence of nourishments to maintain life: her pleasures were the musique and singing voices of young virgins, the daughters of noble men and knights: her garments were of the finest Persian silkes, weau'd vpon silver loomes by Arabian queenes: Thus pomp and pride eleuating her minde, as it were beyond the ambition of Lucifer, who sought to pull God out of heauen and esteemd no man of that royall birth, worthy to match with her in mariage: Emperors and kings she accounted but as slaues to fortune, and the onely subiects to variable chaunce: many high personages enterprizd the conquest of her love, but reaped the fruites of deniall and disgrace, and were not suffered that assuming fauour, as once to kisse her proud hand: yet at last three bold aduenturous gallants, hearing her thundring fame rumord about the world, attempted



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attempted to purchase the conquest of this prize, that neither Emperours nor kings could obtaine :

The first was a Soldier, whose valor and matchles chinarie, upon the wings of fame was carried up and down the earth, as far as ever the golden eye of heauen hath shewen his glittering brightnesse.

The second was a Scholler, whose Academick skill in all the seauen liberall sciences, might challenge in all princes courts, the honours of the golden tongue.

The third and last was a marchant, whose trauelles by sea, round about the earth, compassing seauen times the equinotiall line, purchased such wealth, as builded one of the greatest citties in the world: These three (times honored champions) comming before this proud Ladie of the earth, who sitting then like a goddess, upon the tribunall seat of maiestie, began their loues embassage, in this manner.

Deuine Sol (saide the Soldier) thou miracle of woman kinde, at whose birth good fortune daunced, this bodie of mine is become thy humble vassell, and now yelds all his purchast honours at thy gracious feete: I that by warre haue forragd kingdomes, vnpeopled countries, and made whole fields flowing with blood, will now at thy roial commaund, kisse the sacred plot of ground, where thy celestiall foote but standeth: I that haue dyed the flinty pavements of conquered cities with the purple goare of humane carcasses: and fed my pampered steedes with the flesh of man, am now subiected to thy thrice glorious person, and challenge to my selfe, no other happines, but one smiling glaunce from thy angellicall eyes: graunt then thy loue thou Jewell of nature, and let my soule feed upon the pines that proceedes from the censure of thy blessed tongue in condescending to my loue: legions of aduenturous knights shall fill thy pallace with renowne, and by their knightly prowesse, fetch conquered kings from al the parts of the world, to doe obeysance to thy imperiall greatnesse.



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And in louing me great princeſſe (quod. the ſcholler) the beſt ſearched ſtudies of all ſciences, ſhall be at thy commaund: the pleasures of muſique, the helps of phiſicke, the eloquence of tongues, the ſecrets of ſtarres, the natures of nations, and moreover the ſweet conſolation of deuine meditations, ſhal eleuate thy ſoule to the ſhining paradise of vnſpeakable bleſſednes: then make a ſcholler happy in thy lone ſweet Sola, in whoſe deepe vnderſtanding, lye the ſecrets both of aire, earth and ſea.

And in louing me thou paragon of beawtie, (quoth the marchant) the far fetched treasures of rich India, the gould of arabia, and the vnualueſed carbuncles of gouden Ganges, abundantly ſhall fall into thy lap: I haue meaſured the earth ſeauen times about, and vpon the ſea ſpread ſuch a fleet of ſhips, and rich Argosies, which like to a topleſſe forreſt ſeems to hide heauen, all theſe for thee and for thy loue ſhal ſayle to thoſe nations where no ſunne ſhines, nor moone giues light: to thoſe kingdomes where one night continues ſix months, (and their purchaſe by long trauel) thoſe ineſtimable valued veſtures, which had wont to beawtiſe the proud queenes of Aſia: damasks, goulden tiſſues, and robes of ſiluer, ſhall be as common to thy delights, as rich ſcarlets were to the princes of Iudea: in louing me thou ſhalt be attended with more roialties, then King Salomon was in all his pompe: theſe and ſuch like were the proffered cartellies of theſe three gallant gentlemen, every one hoping thereby to obtaine the good will of this proud Ladie: who was as far from kind acceptance of their ſeruices, as the ſtarued Lionelle is from mercy when ſhe ceaſeth vpon the innocent lambe: therefore reſtiſhing no other counſellores but pride and ambition, the onely nurſes of confuſion, without any further conſideration, made them this anſwere.

What man (high ſpirited gentlemen) that in my bed ſhall ſet his foote, and crop the bud of my virginittie, the which I haue denied vnto kings, ſhall win the ſame grace  
with



## *& Miracola a Spanish witch*

With a seuerer taske or knightly aduenture. First to you, thou vndaunted knight of war, if thou canst either by policy or manhood, either wit or conquest of thy sword, gaine and purchase me a bed, that shall be filled with a softer substance than the soft downe, that grows vpon the milke white swans backe, thou shalt inioy my loue, and I will onely be thy wife: Likewise to thee thou scholler like man of art, if by thy learning or any other deep mystery, thou canst frame me a fountaine, that shall containe a purer water then that which raines from heauen, or that which springs from the cundets of the earth, thou shalt gaine my loue, and I will be onely thy wife. Lastly to thee thou noble aduenturous marchant, if thou by any trauaile either by land or sea, canst finde me a bread that shall be better then that of wheat, thou shalt haue my loue, and I will onely be thy wife. Upon these strict conditions, or rather Herculian labours, these three gallants without any further reply, departed each one his seuerall way, striving which of them should accomplish the taske proposed vnto them: where we will leave them for a while traouailing strange countries, diligently seeking to bring these their strange labours to an end, and speake of the woeful miseries that the heauen afflicted this proud Ladie withall.

Many months passed ouer the head of this hated woman after their departures: and as she grew in age, so did her pride increase, in somuch that for the maintenance of her vaine beautie, she had attending vpon her a hundred of faire and yong wiues, that once euerie day with the milke of their breasts, filled a cesterne of fine gould, with the which euery morning she bathed her bodie, onely to make her beawtiful faire and white skin more smooth and amiable: and that foode which nature gaue for the nourishment of young infants, according to Gods will, she wickedly abused in the maintenance of pride and in the seruice of the deuil: This vile course of life she long wandred in, looking herselfe in the wilderness of blacke iniquitie, till the all-



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seeing eyes of wrath descended heaven, and in a moment  
brooke this proud creature, into such an odious leap-  
stie, that neither eye could indure her sight, nor nostrill a-  
bide her corrupting saours: now that bodie so finely  
framed of natures chiefeft mould, that lately would not in-  
dure the whispering of the gentle windes, were now more  
loathsome then the spotted adder: and that cleare celestiall  
face, that disdained to entertaine the comfortable heate of  
the warme sunne, was now more odious (to mans sight)  
then the swelling toad. and all those Ladies that had wont  
to attend vppon her, forsooke her company, and fled her  
chamber, as from a denne of snakes: they that kept nearest  
to her, were distressed people and vile malefactors, such  
as were lately deliuered from loathsome prisons and deepe  
dungeons: and these in contempt of heauens iudgement,  
caused she with sharpe rasers to flea off the vpper skinne,  
from her spotted face and leapyous bodie, in hope that a  
new, young, and fresh skinne would againe growe, and  
that her beawtie in a liuely manner would againe be re-  
plenished, and not as now blemished with one stained spot  
or soule vicer: all this according to her will was immediate-  
ly performed, but to small purpose, for the enuy of heauen  
cleathed with red vengeance, had doomed her to a misera-  
ble death, for neither art nor nature, by any practise, could  
euer after couer her hated bodie with any kind of skin, but  
that all hir flesh continued rawe and loathsome, and pu-  
trified vnto her bones: in this torment (as a iudgement of  
hir pride) remained she, desiring death, but could not dye,  
till the moone had twice twelue times renewed her bright-  
nes, and that the earth had twice put on her spring (times  
liuery) and twice scottis bearded winter discobd dame  
natures Gardens: then, oh then returned the three  
wandring louers, with conquest of their straunge ad-  
uentures, each one hoping to reape the deserts of  
their true merriits.

The Soldier whose taske was to finde a bedde fild  
with



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with a softer substance then the downe feathers of swans;  
in this dangerous manner brought he his labour to an  
end.

First, after his departure from this proud Lady So-  
la, he travelled many strange countries, meeting with  
many strange people, and in searching many, strange  
places, he happened into a cave, where liu'd a Satyr of  
such bignes, as mans eye had hardly scene: this Satyr  
liu'd vpon the spoile of travellers, within whose Cave  
lay the signes of such as he had murthered and deuor'd:  
the number of the dead bones and skulles which lay  
heaped there together, brake such an admiration into  
the soldiers heart, that for a time his feare so aboun-  
ded that hee stood as it were senceles: but at last be-  
ing orned with the bold courage of manhood, hee  
drew forth his short semiter, and with one blow smote  
of the Satyrs head, whilst he lay sleeping vpon a bedde  
stuffed with nothing but winde, the which the soldier no  
sooner perceined, but he verily beleued his taske to be  
ended, and that a bedde stuffed close with winde, were  
farre more softer then the downe of signets, so taking  
vp the same bedde, and packing it vpon his Gennet  
behinde him, he arrived as you heard at the pallace of  
this proud Ladie, whose misfortunes with fatall newes  
no sooner gave him intertainement, but he fell into  
a melancholly dispaire, and now seeing his long and dan-  
gerous trauailes, reaping no better successe, as one wea-  
ried both of life and good chaunce, conuaid the saide  
windie bedde into a field, vp to the toppes of a high moun-  
taine, where vpon he laide his brused bodie, and  
was by the saide winde immediatly carried away for  
ener.

The Scholler whose long travells and deepe studie,  
nothing inferiour to the Soldier, after he had spent  
two yeares practice in framing a fountaine, that  
should yeelde such a Water, that neither rayned  
from



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from heauen, nor sprung from the conduits of the earth: a taske as he thought impossible, yet good chaunce so directed his steps, that he arriued in the Ile of Delphos, at the Oracle of Apollo, who after his deuine sacrifice, had this pleasing answere revealed to him: The dew of heauen is neither water from the clouds, nor water springing from the earth: replenish a fountaine therewith and so conquer fate, for indeed he conquered fate: for at his returne to the proud Ladies court, in hearing of heauens iudgement laid vpon her, and how that he had consumed two yeres laboz to no effect, he presently fell lunaticke and dyed. Lastly, the marchant tasted of deaths cup, as dearly as the others did, for after he had brought a bread far better then the bread of wheat, which is the bread of saluation, the sacred bible of God which he fetcht from the temple in Jerusalem: but when he saw the end of his hopes rewarded with a vision of calamitie, he departed to a desert wilderness, onely inhabited with wilde beastes, where for want of food, he fasted himselfe to death.

Then Sola after she had intelligence of the liues ruins, of those 3. gallant gentlemen, whom she had so cruelly downed to miserable trauailes, and that for her sake they all three lost their liues, she in great dispaire of eternall happinesse, breathed her soule into the aire, wishing her six sisters by her example to embrace humilitie.

## Enuies Tragedie:

The life and death of Lucina, the enuious, the second daughter to the enchanted queene.

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### Chap 5.

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**L**ucina being the second daughter to the enchanted queene, bearing in her breast the burning fier of enuy, never



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never differed from that deadly sinne, all the date of her  
wretched life: for after the decease of her proud sister, no  
long time passed on, before Iulianus then king of France,  
tooke her in marriage, whose nuptiall rights these two  
countries solemnized, in most princely manner, and the  
chiefest delights and pleasures belonging to a Queene  
daily attended vpon her: all things she could either wish  
or desire were at her commaundment: heauen and earth  
concluded to make her a happy princeesse: onely this, con-  
tent of minde wanted, for nature denied to fructifie her bo-  
die, and grace her with the name of a mother: therefore  
in wanting children she grew enuious to the world, and  
spighted those women that heauen had so blessed: now in  
processe of time, the king, queene and the nobilitie of the  
land took a progresse, into the countrie, more by their  
presence to win their subiects love, then for their owne  
contents and pleasure: and as in great state, and moste  
princely manner, they passed by a forest side, where then  
was situated the castle of an auncient knight, and an old  
seruitor to the kings father in the christian warres, and  
therefore was intituled one of the knights of the Roads, in  
which castle as the queene passed by, a moste pleasant and  
delightfull melodie of musique sounded in her eare, at  
which not seeing any, she greatly marvelled, and deman-  
ded the cause of that extraordinarie reioysing: the answer  
was, that vpon that day was borne to the knight and la-  
die of the castle, a man childe, who neuer before that time,  
for the space of twelue yeres, was grac'd with any: is this  
the cause (saide the queene) now I see base subiects in dis-  
grace of the queenes barrennes, will not sticke but make  
therof a may-game, and to mine owne eares giue me a dis-  
honourable scandall, as I am now queene of France this  
their presumption shall be quitted with death, and  
thou shalt haue the ioy they receiue in this childes birth: thus  
enuy like a conquerer, leas'd vpon all the parts of her bo-  
die: & with the undeserued hate she bore vnto this knight



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and his ladie, her very heart plotted strange confusion &: all the way as she roode along not a word proceeded from her mouth, but samor of enuy and mallice, and not a lamber closed by her eye lids, but it begot dreams of hate and furie: all her meditations were of the overthrow of these two guiltlesse soules, who little mistrusted what deadly plots she devised against their deare lues: every day to this envious queene seemed a yeare till their progress ended, which as ill fortune had allotted, was broke of in this manner.

The commons of Normandie and Pikardie, made an insurrection against the nobilitie, and none but the kings presence could alay their tumultuous furies, who with all speede, princely provided with men, money and munition, tooke his iorney towards them, whose absence no sooner gave way to the queenes mallice, but she dispatched a messenger (one of the groomes of the kings chamber) to the betrayed knight and his ladie, not yet churched, commanding them by the dewtie of alowgeance, to repaire unto the court, and give attendance in her chamber, till the kings returne (onely as she dissembled) the dearest friends to trust unto.

This message of the Queenes pleasure, being no sooner delivered to the knight and his ladie, but as dutifull subiects, rejoyced that their seruices in the kings absence, could bring unto the queene such high pleasure, therefore leaving their castle in quiet government, with all convenient speede they repaired to the queenes pallace, bearing with them their little childe, who at the first were intertained with a friendly regard, and their childe by the queenes commaundment taken from them, and as shee saide) put forth to nurse: but such a bloodie nursery I thinke neuer tender babe indured: little suspected the good knight and his gentle ladie, what a balefull banquet was preparing for them, for the envious and angry queene, instead of tender paps to give the infant nourishment, shee  
commaunde



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commaunded it to be made foode for that wombe, that gaue it first life: so hauing bloodie ministers ready prepared for that tirranicall enterprize according to her wicked meaning, the prettie babe as a seruice (bakt in a pie) was brought to the table of the vnhappy parents, whome the queene had then placed in two chaires in her chamber, directly the one against the other, where after they had satisfied hunger (vnhelpe to them) with the fruit of their owne bowels, she locking fast the chamber doore, assisted by three or foure bloody murderers, provided for the same purpose, and bound them both fast in their chaires with hempen cordes, bands unfitting for such noble minded personages, and being now fettered in the gins of confusion, with an enuious tongue she vttered forth the rancour of her heart in this manner.

Maruell not proud knight (quoth the queene) no; thou thou painted minion of beawtie, at this your sodaine misusage, for till I behould both your hearts liuelesse, your eyes sightles, and your tongues speechles, the rauening fawnes of fury feeds vppon my soule: what hath nature in you grafted more then in me? you being bacely borne, haue the gifts of children, I royally descended, am made barren, by destiny: and because the seede of procreation prospers in your adulterous beds, you liue in all iollitie, making reioycing melodie to my disgrace, whilst I pining in woe, vaineely desiring children canst obtaine them: therefore know that I being a queene, hauing a boddie yong, faire, and likely to conceaue, croft and spighted by the cruell leg of nature, haue protested a secret reuenge against you, and all such as to my dishonour haue their bodiles seeming with children: and now you two shall be the beginners of my intended massacars: therefore knowe, as the first act to this my blacke tragedie, you haue fed and satisfied hunger, with the fruit of your owne bowels: so vppon thee (thou father of this dead infant, by thine owne selfe heere deuorved) I will extend such a  
D 2 torment



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torment, as neuer Tirant deuised, but as thou art a Soldier, so Soldier like shalt thou finish vp thy daies, wherupon she caused an armour burning red hot from the fire to be brought, and without either mercy or pittie, buckeld it vnto his naked backe, where (like vnto Hercules putting on the shirt that cruell Nessus sent) he made such pittifull moane, as might haue inforced teares to fall from a Tigers eye, and the berry marble stones giue signes of laments, but poore knight as without cause he inuoud this dying punishment, so with great patience yeelded he vp his ghoast, in the sight of his beloued Ladie, who being no lesse perplered with the frights of pale death, awaited the fatall hower of the like dying torments, which according to her sorrowfull expectation, she was immediately presented withall, for whilst she sate fast bound in her chaire, gazing vppon the dead broiled bodie of her husband, this enuious queene caused her to be stript starke naked, and to her two tender breasts, placed two speckled venomd snakes, almost starued for want of foode, which with their poisoned stings suckt her hearts life blood quight through her breasts, during which time of her dying torments, continuing for the space of an hower, these and such like lamentations she breathed forth.

Oh you dreadfull powers of heauen! why in a milde womans breast, haue you placed a Tigers heart? why haue you suffered kinde to worke against kinde, nature against nature, and reason against reason? one woman thus cruelly to betray another? oh where is gentlenes become? whether is mercy fled? one beast will not hurt each other, the vilest worme the earth breeds, will by nature pittie one another: but here is a woman that hath shamed her sex, distaind nature, poluted woman kinde, an enemy both to heauen and earth: she hath made me husbandlesse, and childlesse, and immediately will make me liuelesse: oh thou celestiall tower, where iustice sits enthroned, open thy glorious gates to entertaine a widows curse, strike downe  
with



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With a heauy hand, let shame and distruction persue her to death, let some miracle of her tirany be the worlds mark till doomes day: some strange confusion finish vp her life to appease the soules of thzee vnfortunate wretches, onely made miserable thzough the enuy of a malicious queene: and now thou earth farwell, thou nurse and mother of my life adieu, let thzee liues in two bodies be in thy bosome intombd, for now I feele deaths wzath tearing my heart in sunder, and the verry minute of my life fading, and gentle death now art thou welcome: thus with a groane I close thee in my bosome: and in speaking these wordes the bzanches of her life witheced: The enuious queene thus triumphing in the victorie of their destructions, not any whit relented at the pittous moane of this good Ladie, but like an untamed Panther, deuised new cruelties against their dead bodies, which she perfozmed in this vile maner: Contrary to good nature and all humanitie, she caused a furnace to be heat red hot, and therein consumed the substance of these dead bodies into pale ashes, from whence flew sparckling flames of fire, like flakes of bloud vp towards heauen, as it were chalendging vengeance at the thzone of maiestie.

These tirannicall deedes both against life and death were no sooner effected, but news came vnto her, of her Princely husbands returne from quieting the comons tumults, whom she parposed with a disembling countenance of ioy to entertaine: so atiring herselfe in her richest ornaments, attended on with a troope of honourable Ladies, some mile distant, from her blood-stained pallace, she gratulated the king with a princely welcome home: but (as the angry fates had iustly decreed) before the word of welcome could proceed from her mouth, the heauens cast such a dark e cloud ouer y earth, with such a feareful tempest, and thunder, that the fruites of the earth flamed & the leaues of trees were scorched to satisfie y angry wzath of heauen, wherat the king afrighted in minde, challenged the queene of some  
blacke



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black misdoed by her committed, heauy in the sight of hea-  
uen, in being thus offended with the world, but she whose  
heart, blushing sinne had hardened, grew impatient at his  
speeches, and wisht that heauen might make her one of  
the worlds wonders, if euer she wrought or consented to  
any deede of shame, other then what vertue put her in  
minde to doe. this presumptions with of hers so displeased  
the al-seeing powers, that immediately the bowels of the  
earth cleaued, and swallowed her vp aliue into her gaping  
wombe: and directly in the same place where in sinking  
she gave the world a farwell, sprung vp a blood red statue  
of stone, seeming to haue weeping eies, and wringing  
hands, which to this day there still stands, and is re-  
uered in the french Annalls to be one of the seauen wonders  
of Fraunce: the king hauing a conscience touched with re-  
morse and dreading least the heauy wrath of Heauen,  
should for her blood-stained sinne light vpon the whole  
country: therefore after he had searched out the whole fac-  
tion of this blacke misdoed, and put them to execution: as  
a pilgrime bare legd, bare footed, clothd in haire cloth, he  
wandred to Ierusalem, and at the Sepulcher of Iudas  
God, crad remission for this his dead queenes offence. by  
which meanes he washt away this stayned spot, from his  
countreys browe: and after spent his daies in tranquillitie  
and peace.

### Wraths Tragedie:

The life and death of Marsia the wrathfull, the third  
daughter to the enchanted queene.

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### Chap. 6.

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**T**he third sister of this fatall generation, might in the  
right of nature, challenge as great supremacye of bea-  
tie



## *& Miracula a Spanish Witch.*

tic as the other her two former sisters: and not onely an amiable countenance and comely proportion, orned her outward shape, but an excellent gift of art and nature beautified her inward parts, for her minde being replenished with artificiall misteries, so iudiciall in the tongues of learning, so perfit in eloquence, so carious in needle-worke, the onely exercise of princes, that the world esteemed her one of the muses darlings, and the very paragon of woman kinde: in her the whole lands happines consisted: the onely excellent artist of her time, hauing a supernaturall gift, in the noble science of Limning, wherein she greatly delighted, and the more to make her fame glorious in the world, she with a pencell portraied in a map or picture, the frame of the creation of the world: euery thing in his right shape, so liuely set forth, as both beastes, fowles and fishes seemed to retaine life: the sunne, moone and starres, as it were gaue a kinde of light, so artificially shadowed the their qualities: woods, fieldes, and forrests appeared properly greene, and flourishing, and the watry sea gliding thorough the earths bosome, glittered like chrystall, and her swelling billowes seemed to rise and fall, that no earthly eye could make a difference betwixt them and the surges of the vast ocean.

This excellent peece of workmanship being to her hearts content finished, was set to the open view of all eyes, challenged a superiortie in that misterie aboue all others of the time: but now amongst many that came from all parts of the kingdome, to behold this rare peece of workmanship, there came one, whose skill therein, the whole earth admired, the which in former times had bin tutor to this Princesse, and first instructed her in the principles of this delightfull arte: this reuerent man (for his milke-white head claime reuerentnesse) after he had in the presence of many noble personages, circumspectly viewed euery secret of this rare worke, and marking euery curious shadow how it was laide, lastly found a defect in  
the



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the portraiture of man, and to this Princeſſes diſgrace, as ſhe tooke it, found great fault therewith, at which Marſias wꝛath ſo inkindled, and with ſuch flames fiered her whole bodie, that in preſence of all the nobilitie, with a ſilver bodkin ſtriking in the goulden trammels of her haire, ſhe furiouſly ſtabbed the good old man vnto the heart, ſo greatly her wꝛath preuailed: this bloodie and enraged fact, by the whole aſſembly was generally lamented, and by her wꝛathfull hand no ſooner done but repented, for wꝛath being of nature ſodaine, a little ouerpaiſſed, conuertes into remorse, ſo happened it with this Ladie, for when her eye beheld the purple goare of his liueles heart, panting vpon the ground, ſhe ſtrived in reuenge thereof to ſeare out her own eyes, and would haue committed that bloody crueltie vpon her ſelfe, had not the ſtanders by preuented her, wherevpon in great agonie, ſhe vttered forth this enraged complaint.

Oh why will not heauen (quoth ſhe) take my blood ſtained life, and breathe into his breathles bodie new aire: or why may not my eyes forſake their hated cels, within his eyes to giue a ſeeing power: oh y this breaſt of mine were now vnbowelled, and this my wꝛathfull heart torne from my boſomes cloſſet, and ſacrificed vpon that carcaſſe, which my cruell hand hath vntimely ſlaine: be therefore oh thou fatal hand, for euer lame, deny to giue ſuſtenance to this my vile bodie, harboꝝing now nothing but cogitations of reuenge: graunt this oh heauen, that from henceforth I may neuer taſt one bit of foode in ioy, nor walke abroad but in diſcontent, nor ſleepe but in frightfull feares, nor dreame but of melancholly diſpaire, for my ſodain hand hath ſlaine, the miracle of humanitie, within whose head, (whiſt life laſted) dwelled true wiſedome, a tongue tipt with eloquence, and a voice reſounding reports of celeftial vnderſtanding: theſe and ſuch like paſſions vttered ſhe from the fury of her repentant ſoule, which immediately had broke her heart ſtrings, had not the care of her Ladies, (then



## *& Miracula a spanish witch*

(then there attending) conducted her to her chamber, where they with the harmony of musique and melodie of voices, rockt her grieued senses into a silent slumber, in which quiet rest (as they imagined) they left this distressed princess: but far otherwise happeneth still to a troubled minde, for as she lay sighing and sobbing vpon her bed, greewing at the blood she so wrathfully spilt, there appeared before her face, the ghastly shape of the murdered old man, wan & pale in visage: breathing forth hollow groanes, to the deepe terror of her soule, and seemed to her affrighted eies, to open the closet of his bleeding breast, as it were thirsting for reuenge, and desiring blood for blood: This fearefull and strange sight, so deeply molested her conscience, that from that time forward, she banished away al thoughts of terrestiall ioy, and delighted in nothing but her owne confusion, so heauy lay the guilt of murther vpon her soule, for after that time not any foode would she euer take into her bodie, nor euer after indure the fellowship of people, nor neuer suffer one small slumber to close vp her eye lids, but in great woe and miserie, ouerwatched and pined her selfe to death, to the great discomfort and sorrow of the whole land, who by a generall consent, intombed both their bodies in one graue, and erected therevpon a sumptuous sepulcher, the which to this day standeth in great gloze in the citie of Paris.

### *Auarice her Tragedie:*

Or the life & death of Mercuria the couetous, the fourth daughter to the enchanted queene.

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### Chap 7.

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**T**He fourth of these unhappy children, bearing the name of Mercuria the couetous, esteeming the countries content, beyond the glories of the court, banishing from her selfe



## *The History of king Morindos;*

a princely desires, accounting the the brāds of ambitio, & the  
onely spurs of distruction: so making her thzee former sist-  
ers a memoriall example of principallities downefall, she  
purposed to spend her daies as a shepheardisse in the coun-  
trie, where in stead of a royall court, she had the siluaine  
fieldes and mountaines to liue in, & in place of her princes-  
ly attendance, she had her flocks of sheepe to delight in,  
whose plentifull increase of wooll, were as the treasures  
both of land and sea: her imperiall diadem, was her sheep-  
hooke: her pleasurable musique, the chirping melodie of  
birds: her guard, the pretty watchfull curre, that with  
his shirle barking gaue notice of insuing daungers: and  
the treasons complotted against her, were the tyranny of  
devouring wolues: but such was her siluaine care and  
countrie dilligence, that her flocks sustained small hurt by  
the bloody rage of this spoiler, by which meanes in short  
time, her riches grew vnualueable, and her treasures with-  
out number: but the greedy thirst of her wealths further  
increase, so bewitched her insatiate desires, that her verry  
soule grew rotted with vile couetousnes, and the smallest  
losse thereof drew drops of blood from her heart: she feared  
to trust the aire with her mony, least the winde should con-  
sume it away: no: the earth, least the wormes should con-  
sume it: no: the sea, least fishes should purloine it: but in  
a more securer manner (as she thought) she intended to  
hide it betwixt heauen and earth, that both months, weeks  
daies, and howers, she might with the sight thereof glutte  
the sight of her thirstie eies, so hauing a huge some of pure  
gould, closed in an Ioyne truncke, the which in a darke  
gloomy night, (the secret concealer of all blacke deedes)  
she conuatted and hid in the hollowe trunk of an old wither-  
ed oake, standing betwixt two steepy hills: where the  
tracking steps of man sildome treadeth: in which hollow  
tree, almost rotten with age, she secretly hid this rich ie-  
w-ell of her soule: intombing it therein with these speeches:  
Lie thou there (quoth she) my sweet gould, thou great  
mumme



## *& Miracula a Spanish witch*

commander of mankind, my desires content, my earths  
happines, my hearts ravisher: by seeing thee I am ravi-  
shed with ioy, & in possessing thee I feede vppon the plea-  
sures of the world: what is it not but gould can bring to  
passe: gould can purchase kingdomes, and betray Prin-  
ces: gould can buy preferment, and make men mightie:  
gould can make the foolish wise, and curb authoritie: gould  
can win faire Ladies, and wrong the marriage bed: gould  
can tempt the chaste, and sack virginie: nay gould  
can change vice into vertue, falshood into troth, and vile  
villany into pure honestie: then bethou sweet gould my  
second soule, for in looking thee the world ends with me:  
in this manner left she this corrupting gould lying in the  
hollow tree, purposing every day once to feed her eyes with  
the bewitching sight thereof: but now make what hap-  
pened to this covetous woman, the next morning by the  
opening of the daires windows, there came vnto the same  
place where this gould lay, a poore man, a distressed wretch  
with a rope in his hand, vppon the same tree to end his  
wearisome life: the reason was, that the pittifull cries of  
his wife and children, complayning for bread at his hands  
he not being able to satisfie their wants, came thether to  
hang himselfe, and so by that meanes rid himselfe from the  
complayning cries of his poore wife and needy children, but  
as the good chaunce of smiling heauen was, in tying the  
rope about an arme or bzaunch of the same tree, making a  
nose to put ouer his head, and in giuing the unkinde world  
a dolefull adew, he espied this coffer of gould, at which he  
staid from that selfe wild murther, and being ioyfull of so  
rich a purchase, left the rope there still hanging, and car-  
ried the coffer home, to the comfort of his wife & children:  
thus you see heauen by good meanes, saved the deare soule  
of this desperate man, and releued the distressed estate  
of his almost starved family: which we leave now in  
groat ioy, and speake of the wofull calamitie, tyed vppon  
the backe of this covetous ladie, who immediately after this  
poore mans departure, came vnto the aforesaide tree to



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looke vppon her gould, whereby her heart might leape at the ioyfull sight thereof: but no sooner found she her hopes frustrate, her gould gon, and an instrument of death left hanging vppon the tree in place thereof, she grew into such a violent dispaire, that without either care of her liues safetie, or prevention of her soules damnation, in the same corde she strangled her selfe: her bodie being thus made breathlesse, exempted from the sight of people, had no other buriall but in the rauening maines of hunger-starued sowles: whose straunge confusion had neuer bin knowne, but through the voice of her troubled ghoast, which walked many yeares after betwixt those two hills, and revealed it to the country inhabitants: thus was her couetousnes scourged for a grievous sin, both by heauen and hell.

### Gluttonies Tragedie:

Or the life and death of Louina, the drunkard, the fift daughter to the enchanted queene.

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### CHAP. 8.

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Quina now the subiect of our tragick storie, and fift daughter to this enchanted Queene, as fate and chaunce ordained, was matcht in marriage to the rich Cardinall of Lozraine, whose court for magnificence, equallizd any prelates before his time: for every day vprising and downe lying, he had a thousand officers in his pallace, and provision for the maintenance thereof, were the customes of three riche dukedomes: this haughtie and proud Cardinall, was in his life so vitious, that he accounted drunkennes a deed of manhood: and he that could best deuise new seruises to pamper



## *& Miracula a Spanish witch*

pamper by gluttonie, he advanced to great authoritie: and his riotous table was accounted the treasure of earth, aire and sea, of beastes, foules and fishes: but God owing him a grievous shame, in the middle of his magnificence, when he feasted at one time in the honour of his greatnes, three christian kings: to the wonder of them all, he was choakt with a grape huske, hapning in a cup of Arabian wine: this his sodaine death not onely amazed the whole company, but dyane such a discontent into the minds of Louina, that she purposed a present reuenge vpon the whole countrey: and as the customes of y<sup>e</sup> nations are, that by the death of such an imperious prelate, all the land & reuenues fall from the wise: so she to make a spoile thereof made such a funerall banquet, as Spaines chronicles to this day speaks of: for no sooner had the earth closed vpon the Cardinals perfumed bodie, and deliuered the same to the fury of consuming wormes, but this gluttonous woman by sound of drum and trumpets, caused a proclamation to be made throughout all the country, of a free banquet for the space of seauen daies, awarding to him or her that could eate or drinke the moste, a hope of pure gold to compasse in their bellies: the report of this deadly prize of sin, being no sooner bruted abroad, but of rioters, spendthrifts, gluttons, and drunkards, from all parts arrived such numbers that the walles of Lorraine could hardly containe them, the tables whereat they sat were as natures storehouse, variably yeelding all kinde of delicacies, and their pampered wombes as the insatiate gulfe of hell neuer sufficed: some there were that had their bellies split in sunder by ouerfilling them: some in the middle of their gluttony choakt with superfluities, some by overcharging themselves with wine, vomited out their inward partes, and some fell into such deadly sleepes, as they neuer wakened againe: and of all these multitudes of people, the tenth man departed not away with life, so consuming a tragedie brought this vile deed of gluttonie, and drunkennes vpon that country.



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Now Louina her selfe seeing the earth almost strewed ouer with stifeled carcases, began to enuy at the powers of heauen, and in contempt thereof, drew forth a sharpe knife, and threw it vp toward the aire, saying, I wil wound fate and dismember the destinies, in crossing thus the glory of my magnificent banquet: but the knife she cast vp neuer more descended, but in stead thereof fell downe three drops of blood, directly before her vpon the table where she sat, which strange and dismall sight stroake terror and remorse into her conscience, and such a despairing repentance into her cogitations, that from that time forward (as the angry heauens had appointed) she consumed the remnant of her life (which was but short) in bitter lamentations: Thou blacke vengeance (quoth she) hath doomed me with a thousand calamities, and the scarlet canopie of destruction is euen ready to close in my hated life: in moste vile courses haue my loathed steps wandred in, and now the reward thereof is shame & confusion: me thinks I heare succourles people calling for that food I so gluttonously haue spent: me thinks I heare the unpittied widdow, and the hungry orphan, challenging my destruction: me thinks I heare the decrepit and aged wretches, soliciting heauen for reuenge: me thinks I heare the pining prisoners, in deepe dungeons, exclaiming againe my riotous gluttony, and me thinks the troubled earth, bellobes vp reuenging echoes, against my sinne drowned bodie: thus mourned her relenting tongue, till her vnsanchable wombe grew as it were starued with hunger, and then striving to suffice nature, could not, for the pipes of her liues maintenace, were clunged vp, and by the lust powers of mortallitie, had a heavier iudgement laide vpon her, for that foode which heauen and nature ordained for her liues sustinance, were conuerted into a contrary substance, her bread beauen changed into stones, her meat into venemous toads, and crawling wormes: and her drinke into a puddle of poysoned liquor, the stench & sauer whereof no nostril could indure: thus



## & *Miracula a Spanish witch*

thus exempted both from heauens grace and earths pittie,  
she languished many daies, hated of God and man: til the  
fatall sisters finished her wearisome life: this was the hea-  
uens scourge for gluttonie and drunkennes, as black a sin  
and as deadly as any of the seauen.

### Letcheries Tragedie:

Or the life and death of Veneria the lustfull, the sixt  
daughter to the inchaunted queene.

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#### Chap. 8.

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Will folloves one misfortune vppon a no-  
thers necke, woe vppon woe, calametie v-  
pon calametie: and this seed so wickedly  
sowne, could not chuse but be blasted in  
the bloome: now to our sad discourses, no  
sooner had Veneria the sixt daughter of  
this inchaunted queene, yeelded vnto the tender bud of her  
virginitie, changing her mayden head for a wifes hon-  
our, being then conioynd in marriage with the Princely  
king of Bohemia: befoze one month had consumed thirtie  
daies, grew inamor'd vppon a base groome, one of the kit-  
chen scullions, whom in her lustfull eye, seemd to be a fel-  
low of knightly behauiour, though a deformed vassell of  
humble seruitude, therefore as the temptations of sin had  
deluded her, careles of her princely husbands honour, and  
regardles of her owne reputation, vppon a time in her hus-  
bands absence, she caused this hated night-owle the scul-  
lion, to be sent for, touching (as she dissembled) some seri-  
ous busines to be impleid in: who being no sooner priuat-  
ly come into her presence, but reuealing the burning heat  
of her lust, she gaue him this vnlookt for intertainement:  
Little thinkest thou good Antonio (quoth she, for so was he  
named)



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named) what high promotions are heaped vpon thy head: for nature in thy first creation, ordained thee to enioy the pleasures of a princely bedde: though enuious time now burthens thee with slauery, yet fate and good fortune crownes thee with happines: then knowe thou iewel of mine eye, that my bosome containes a heart dauncing at thy presence, and without the fruition of thy loue, it will quight consume away: I being a Princesse am more haples then the country milke-maide, for she may challenge that same loue that facy leads her to, but I dare not claime the least interest of my pining passions: be not hard hearted then deere Antonio, be as gentie as the clasping vine, hem in my bodie with thy manly armes, take the pleasures of my honours sacke, feede on content, if content be in my yeelding bodie, for I am impatient of delay: my husbands armes are like vnto the twinding imbraces of serpents, his kisses as the crokavils, and his bed more loathsome then a den of snakes: oh that nature had made me humble as thy selfe, partner in thy fortunes, and thy second selfe, either now yeeld to my desires, or I vowe by him that made both heauen and earth, I will pursue thee with a vengeance more terrible, then euer mans irefull heart imagined: and conclude on this, that either continuall happines, or euerlasting misery is put vnto thy hearts choyce: now this poore wretch, vnacustomed to these demands, stood for a time as one new dropt from the cloudes, not knowing what to resolve vpon: but at last as it were ramished with all celestiaall blessednes, and seeing time as he thought fit for euer to make him selfe happy, by inioying the delightfome fauours of so great a princesse, condescended to satisfie the desires of her burning lust: and according to her pleasure, with blacke misdeeds distaind the whight honours of her marriage bed: Veneria hauing thus wonne him to her wishes, caused his base attires to be stripped off and his bodie to be clothed in rich vestures, the more to feede lustes gluttonie, and appointed him the next night

to



## *& Miracola a Spanish Witch.*

to set foote within her adulterous bedde, which in moste wicked manner was accomplished: But now marke how shame cannot lye long hid, nor the concealer of sinne (Darke night) couer this polluted crime: but as confusions watch-bell sounded these her dishonours abroad, through the faithfull beautie of the kings chamber-keepers, he had intelligence thereof: so chusing to himselfe a selected number to effect his reuenge, at the middle hower of night, when nothing disquieted the sleepes of humaine creatures, but the gentle blustering of windes, and the muscull murmurings of running waters: he entred the chamber of this his lustfull and adulterous queene, who securely lay then sleeping in the bosome of this bace scullion, droue such a rage into the heart of the vnquiet king, as flesh and blood could hardly indure it: therefore drawing a short semiter from his side, he sheathed it in the brest of his wifes minion, whose blood with such fury gushed from his polluted bosome, as it wakened the sinne-stained queene, who at the first sight of her husbands presence, in her smock all to be sprinkled with the scullions blood, fell downe vpon her knees, craving remission for that crime which she so long had thirsted after: but the incraged king to her penitent contrition, was as remoyleles as the deafe adder, and as far from granting her life, as the soules in hell bee from saluation, yet being his second selfe, a collop of his owne flesh, and his ownely marriage choice, he would not defile his cleare hands with her detested blood, therefore as a pining pennance for this lustfull fact, for this marriage bed so distained, for this nuptiall promise broken, for this worlds scandall, this marriedmans dishonour, and for this euerlasting spot of disgrace, he inflicted vpon her a lingring punishment, which in this manner was immediately effected: First he caused a large coffin to be brought, wherein he put the murdered bodie of the scullion: then to the same dead bodie, (beginning now to peutrisse and stinck) he tyed the liue bodie of his queene, and so in the coffin closed them vp



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both together, that as she inioyd his fellowship in life, so might she consume with him being dead, by which meanes the berry wormes that bred vppon the dead carkasse, in a manner deuor'd vpper her liue bodie: and thus were the finnes of lust and adulterie, scourged with a plague but sildome heard of.

## Sloths Tragedie:

Or the life and death of Saturnia the sluggard, the seauenth and last daughter of the enchanted Queene.

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### Chap. 9

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Aturnia the last, but not the unhappiest of these sisters, had the gentlest fortune of them all allotted her, yet in striving to prevent fate, was taken in her owne trap, and when she least dreamed on, tasted of the bitter cup of death: the worlde she accounted the wildernes of iniquitie, and the berry puddle of misery: therefore hating the fellowship of mankinde, she purposed to forsake all princely glories, courtly delights, and worldly pleasures, and betake her to the solitary life of Diana, and to spend the remnant of her daies in some desert wildernes, where no sinne abounded. So vppon an evening, without company she stole from the court, guided by the pale light of the moone, and the twinkling star-light of heauen, she happened into a thicke groue of trees, as it were inhabited onely by fayeries, elues, and the ghaastes of dead men: day and night there seemd all one: the glorious sunne as a straunger there shewd his face, and the voices of humaine creatures were accounted fatall to be there heard: night-rauens, howlats, battes with leather wings, flying griffens and kokatrides, couered quight ouer



## *& Miracola a Spanish Witch.*

uer these thickets: vpon the ground lay red bellied worms, speckled snakes, hissing adders, venemous toads, lothsome spiders, and sleeping dozemice: so that neither hearb nor grasse was there to be seene, onely heaps of browne mosse, vppon the which she rested her discontented bodie: twice twelue moneths without waking slept she there vpon, onely fed by the gentle meanes of greene-capt fairies, in which long sleepe her dreames were of the torments of hell, and the manner of her six sisters punishments in that damned region.

First in her sleepe she beheld her eldest sister, bearing the name of Pride, attired in a garment boyled in molten lead, with a neckercher about her necke of flaming fire: and her dainty feete seemed to walke vppon red burning coales.

Next, she beheld her second sister, called Enuy, grasping in her hands a paire of fiery stinging snakes, which as it were lay feeding vppon her flesh, euen readie to burst with the aboundance of blood suckt from her bosome.

Then she beheld her third sister called Wrath, wading into a boyling caldron of fire and brimstone, vp to the very chin, and in brazen ladles casting the same vp and downe in great fury.

Then first she her eye vpon her fourth sister named Couetousnes, feeding on melted gould, and euery part of her bodie behung with burning pearles, sapphires & diamonds, which seemed to seare the very flesh from her bones.

After this she beheld her fift sister, which was Gluttony sitting in a flaming chaire, at a table of red hotte yorne, serued by deuils, with broiled loads vppon grid-yorns, and drinking downe challices of boyling mettle.

The next vision was her sixt sister, named Letchery, lying in a bed of smoking sulpher, deliuered of a brood of vipers, who with their fiery teeth fed vppon her bowels, and as it were had her bodie spread all ouer with vile leprosie.



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These were her fearefull dreames and continuall apparitions, in which vnquiet sleepe she remained without waking, till her bodie grew shapeles, hauing no proportion, as then made the shelter for toads, frogs, and venomous wormes, to breed in the excrements of the earth, and the deformities of nature: thus vanished her life away in sleepe, being no way able to withstand the seuerer indignation of heauen.

Of the enchanted queenes dispaire, and how she was carried away aliuie by deuils.

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## CHAP. 9.

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After the death of all these seauen deadly sisters, now brought to confusion by the blacke doome of mortallitie: our tragick story bids vs returne to the inchaunted queene, lying all this while in childbed, sightles and lame, hauing no feeling in any part of her members, which miracle of misery, after she had intelligence of her seauen daughters tragicall ends, assuredly beleeued that then her life was at the last period, and the time of fearefull death drew neere, according to her conditions made to the deuil, who promised she should liue till the seauen daies of the weeke were forgotten, which she aluded to her seauen daughters so named: now feare, terror, and pining dispaire assailed her on all sides: now dreaded she euery minute, her soules departure to that burning furnace, whose fire is ten times more hotte then this earthly fire, and now euery small nois she heard, she supposed, to be the hurring of deuils that came to take possession both of soule and bodie: euery minute wished she now to be whole yeares, howers, millions and daies endles,



## *& Miracula a Spanish Witch.*

les, time to stand still, or the world to end: now she repented her ambition, her aspiring dignities, and all those desires of a kingdome: now repented she the selling of her soule: her hands sealing with her owne blood, and all her agreements with blacke hell: every time the clocke struck put her in minde of eternall damnation, and how that hels gaping mouth stood ready to receive her: cursing the begetters and causers of her creation: thus in deepe remorse of conscience, spent she out the firesome day, the last day of her worldly life, till the cloudy evening with her pitchy mantle approached, the onely comparatiue of gloomy hell, the which had no sooner shut vp the bright eye of heauen, but cloudes more darke then darknes it selfe, checked the world with motions of pale death: such tempests of lightning and thunder, brooke from heauens chrystall portalls, that it euen blaisted the beautie of the earth, and atired both trees, hearbes, and flowers, in a mournfull livery: this night to al mankind was a night of feare, a night of relentless terror, a night of confused desolation, in which extremitie of horror it continued till the mid-nights howler, at which instant time with a clamorous roaring, that seemed to shake both heauen and earth, the wrathfull powers of blacke hell, fetcht away both her bodie and soule: the which being done, the heaues cleared, the earth replenished, and after followed a time of plentie, peace and prosperitie.

*FFNFS.*